

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nantua (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2003/0059138).

A sealing device with a rotation detecting element specified in claims 2 and 7 is neither disclosed nor suggested by the references relied upon in the rejection of original claim 1.

A sealing device with a rotation detecting element in accordance with the present invention can be applied to a structure in which a crank shaft 2 is rotatably supported in a cylinder block of an engine, a seal housing 3 is secured to the cylinder block, a sealing element 1 is provided in the seal housing 3 for sealing a boundary space between a crank chamber side of the engine and an external atmosphere side, and a detector 4 is provided in the cylinder block at the atmosphere side for detecting a rotary condition (for example, a rotary speed, a rotary angle and the like) of the crank shaft 2.

In the sealing element 1 of the present invention, the contact between the seal lip 12d of the seal ring 12 and the seal flange 14b of the first slinger 14 prevents the engine oil from leaking from the crank chamber side to the atmosphere side while the dust lip 13 prevents dust from entering from the atmosphere side to the crank chamber side.

The Nantua reference (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2003/0059138) discloses a structure for sealing an encoder provided in a rolling bearing. The rolling bearing is different from the sealing device for the crank shaft of the present invention with respect to its object, its construction and effects. The sealing structure of the Nantua reference neither discloses nor suggests the prevention of leakage of oil and the prevention of entry of dust.

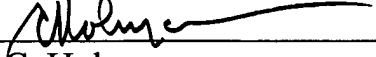
The Bochet reference (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2005/0141795), Ichiman reference (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0046328) and Niebling reference (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2005/0047691) also relate to bearing structures similar to that of the Nantua reference. As stated above, the bearing structures of these references neither disclose nor suggest the elements for preventing the leakage of oil and for preventing the entry of dust.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By: 
John C. Holman
Reg. No. 22,769

400 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2201
(202) 638-6666
Date: December 19, 2007
JCH/JLS/crj